(d) The National Airports Authority have plans to upgrade following airports in the State of Assam:—

1. Guwahati :- Expand and modify the existing terminal building. The work is likely to commence during the current financial year.

2. Dibrugarh & Lilabari:- Night landing facilities are being provided. The work is in progress and is expcted to be completed by the end of 1993.

3. Silchar :- The work relating to expansion and modification of the existing terminal building is expected to be awarded in the current financial year, and completed by January, 1995.

Development of Adventure Tourism in North East States

4138. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the North East States have tremendous potential for tourist development specially 'Adventure Tourism'; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to encourage it in that region?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: (a) and (b) The Government of India, on its own, does not identify regions or spots for development of adventure tourism. However, it assists the State Governments/Union Territories for creation of infrastructural facilities on the specific proposals received from them, on the basis of their merits, inter-se-priorities and availability of funds.

Development of Tourism in Assam

4139. SHRI BHADRESHWAR BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the infrastructural facilities besides hotel and motel facilities contemplated by the Central Government for development of Tourism in Assam;

(b) what is the amount of money earmarked during 1992-93 for development of tourism in Assam; and

(c) whether the State Government is utilising the money in those projects?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Development of Tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State/Union Territory Governments. However, the Department of Tourism extends financial assistance on the basis of specific proposals received from the States, their merit, availability of funds and inter-se priorities. Based on the discussions with the State Government 6 projects with an estimated cost of Rs. 125.00 lakhs has been listed for financial assistance during 1992-93.

(c) Central Government assistance is released in instalments and all instalments except the first are released only on receipt of utilisation certificates from the State Government.

Shortage of pilots in Indian Airlines

4140. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any shortage of trainee pilots in Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, whether there is any valid panel for the recruitment of trainee pilots in Indian Airlines;

(c) if so, upto what period the penal is valid;

(d) the number of candidates taken from the said panel *vis-a-vis* Gen/SC/ST;